



VENEZUELA

- Middle income country
- Well-developed transportation infrastructure
- Natural disasters
 - Earthquake-prone
 - Torrential rains

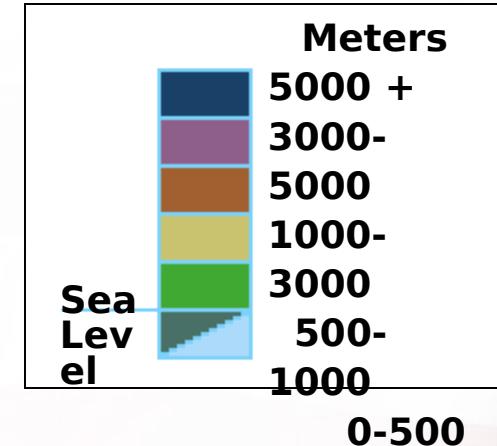


Venezuela: Environmental Issues

- Topography
- Climate



Tropical; hot, humid; more moderate in highlands



Andes Mountains and Maracaibo Lowlands in northwest; central plains (Llanos); Guiana Highlands in southeast

lowest point: Caribbean Sea 0 m
highest point: Pico Bolívar 07.0

Venezuela: Environmental Issues

- Industry
 - Petroleum production and refining, coal and metal mining, and agriculture
 - Gold and diamond mining in Bolivar state
- Water
 - Surface water contaminated with raw sewage and industrial waste
 - Surface water contaminated by pipeline spills in Colombia
 - Arsenic, mercury and cyanide contamination due to mining

Venezuela: Environmental Issues

- Food
 - Mercury contamination of freshwater fish due to gold mining
- Air
 - Localized pollution near urban and industrial centers
- Soil
 - Localized contamination near industry and waste disposal sites

Venezuela: Environmental Issues

- Greatest short-term environmental health risks
 - Water contaminated with raw sewage or runoff
- Greatest long-term environmental health risks
 - Mercury contamination of water and food

Venezuela: Diseases of Operational Importance

- Intermediate risk country
- Diseases of greatest risk
 - Food and water-borne: bacterial diarrhea, hepatitis A
 - Vector-borne: dengue fever, malaria, Venezuelan equine encephalitis

Venezuela: Diseases of Operational Importance

- Diseases of potential risk
 - Food and water-borne: brucellosis, cholera, protozoal diarrhea, typhoid/paratyphoid fever
 - Vector-borne: Chagas disease, Eastern equine encephalitis, leishmaniasis, mansonellosis, onchocerciasis, yellow fever
 - Sexually transmitted: gonorrhea/chlamydia, hepatitis B, HIV/AIDS
 - Water contact: leptospirosis, schistosomiasis
 - Soil contact: Venezuelan hemorrhagic fever
 - Respiratory: meningococcal meningitis, tuberculosis
 - Animal contact: rabies